

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LONDON 08959 01 OF 02 071434Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 FMC-01 INR-10 NSAE-00 CG-00
DLOS-09 OES-07 SS-15 L-03 PA-01 SSO-00 INRE-00
ICAE-00 NSCE-00 STR-07 /084 W
-----096510 071447Z /72

O R 071426Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6891
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMCONSUL HAMBURG
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 LONDON 08959

BRUSSELS ALSO FOR USEC
PARIS ALSO FOR USEC

E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EWWT, UK, US
SUBJECT: UK REACTIONS TO US-CONSULTATIVE SHIPPING
GROUP (CSG) DISCUSSIONS

REF: STATE 140369

1. U.K. DEPT. OF TRADE UNDER SECRETARY, SHIPPING
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LONDON 08959 01 OF 02 071434Z

POLICY DIVISION, GERRY LANCHIN, HELD PRESS CON-
FERENCE IN LONDON JUNE 5 ON RESULTS OF US-CSG DISCUS-
SIONS. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS FROM GENERAL COUNCIL OF
BRITISH SHIPPING (GCBs) OFFICIAL WHO ATTENDED PRESS
CONFERENCE THAT LANCHIN CONVEYED SENSE OF DISAPPOINT-
MENT AT RESULTS OF SUBJECT TALKS. HE FELT THEY HAD
NOT MADE PROGRESS THEY SHOULD HAVE. HE SAID THAT

CSG MEMBERS HAD HOPED THAT AN INTERIM PERIOD COULD BE AGREED UPON WITH THE U.S. DURING WHICH NO ACTION WOULD BE TAKEN BY THE U.S. TO AGGRAVATE THE DIFFICULTIES FACING THE 13 CSG SHIPPING NATIONS BUT THAT NO PROGRESS ON THAT SIDE HAD BEEN MADE. MARIANNE NEVILLE-ROTH OF THE AMERICAN DESK OF THE DEPT. OF TRADE SHIPPING POLICY DIVISION, WHO ALSO PARTICIPATED IN THE PRESS CONFERENCE, NOTED THAT THE TALKS HAD BEEN EXPLORATORY AND THAT A WORKING GROUP WAS TO MEET IN THE NEAR FUTURE TO WORK UPON THE ISSUES IDENTIFIED. ANOTHER GCBS OFFICIAL WHO SPOKE PRIVATELY TO MS. NEVILLE-ROTH FOUND HER MORE OPTIMISTIC THAN LANCHIN ABOUT THE

RESULTS OF THE TALKS. SHE DID, HOWEVER, CONFIRM A POINT LANCHIN MADE DURING THE PRESS CONFERENCE THAT THE U.S. SIDE WAS NOT KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT CONFERENCE OPERATIONS AND THAT THE CSG MEMBERS HAD COME PREPARED FOR MORE PENETRATING AND COMPREHENSIVE QUESTIONS ABOUT CONFERENCES AND SHIPPERS' COUNCILS THAN THEY HAD HAD TO FACE.

2. NEWSPAPER REPORTS OF THE PRESS CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTED A MORE HARD-LINE, CRISIS-ORIENTED POINT OF VIEW THAN THE GCBS OBSERVER SAW AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE. UNDER A HEADLINE, "SHIPPING NATIONS CONCERNED OVER DANGERS OF CONFRONTATION WITH AMERICA LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 LONDON 08959 01 OF 02 071434Z

ON LINER POLICY", THE LONDON TIMES NOTED THAT THE UK DELEGATION TO THE US-CSG TALKS WAS "SOBERED BOTH BY THE APPARENT DISARRAY BETWEEN DIFFERENT AMERICAN DEPARTMENTS AND THE POTENTIAL DAMAGE TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS SOME PROPOSED U.S. SHIPPING MEASURES COULD CAUSE." (SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED WAS THE ANTI-REBATING BILL REPORTED AS LIKELY TO BECOME LAW BY NOVEMBER.) A U.K. SPOKESMAN FOR THE INDUSTRY WAS REPORTED AS STATING THAT "RELATIONS BETWEEN THE U.S. AND HER SHIPPING ALLIES HAD DETERIORATED SEVERELY IN THE PAST TWO YEARS AND WERE NOW AT THEIR WORST SINCE 1964..." THE U.S. SHIPPING REGULATORY SYSTEM WAS DESCRIBED AS A "LAWYERS' PARADISE". THE FINANCIAL TIMES ARTICLE, UNDER THE HEADLINE "U.S. SHIPPING POLICY HITS TRADE RELATIONS", QUOTED GERRY LANCHIN AS SAYING THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN THE CSG STATES AND THE U.S. WERE "MORE UNSATISFACTORY NOW THAN THEY HAVE EVER BEEN." HE WAS ALSO QUOTED AS SAYING, "THE U.S. NOW HAS NO COHERENT SHIPPING POLICY." ON THE ANTI-REBATING BILL, HE IS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID THAT IT COULD SERIOUSLY HARM THE SOVEREIGNTY OF WESTERN SHIPPING NATIONS AND ITS IMPACT WOULD

SPREAD FAR BEYOND SHIPPING AND TRADE. REBATING OF FREIGHT RATES AS PRACTICED BY SOME MEMBERS OF WESTERN SHIPPING LINE CONFERENCE, WHICH SHARE CARGOES AND POOL REVENUE, IS, HE CONTENTED, NOT ILLEGAL IN EUROPE BUT WOULD BECOME SO ON SHIPPING USING U.S. PORTS IF THE PROPOSED BILL BECOMES LAW.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LONDON 08959 02 OF 02 071431Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 FMC-01 INR-10 NSAE-00 CG-00
DLOS-09 OES-07 SS-15 L-03 PA-01 SSO-00 INRE-00
ICAE-00 NSCE-00 STR-07 /084 W
-----096438 071448Z /72

O R 071426Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6892
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMCONSUL HAMBURG
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 02 OF 02 LONDON 08959

3. EMBASSY ECONOMIC MINISTER AND SHIPPING ATTACHE HAD LUNCHEON DISCUSSION OF CSG-U.S. MEETING RESULTS WITH GCBS OFFICIALS FARTHING, BANNARD, AND EDGINTON AND HEAD OF GCBS US SUBCOMMITTEE, WILLIAM SLATER, CHAIRMAN OF ATLANTIC CONTAINER LINE CONSORTIUM.

THEY WERE HOPEFUL ABOUT POSSIBILITIES OF LONG TERM
RESOLUTION OF CSG-US SHIPPING PROBLEMS, BUT THEY
CLEARLY SHARED U.K. DELEGATION VIEW THAT CSG-US
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LONDON 08959 02 OF 02 071431Z

RELATIONS IN SHIPPING HAD SERIOUSLY DETERIORATED
DURING THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS. ON THEIR VISIT TO
WASHINGTON IN JANUARY, THEY WERE IMPRESSED BY THE
GENERAL LACK OF UNDERSTANDING AMONG U.S. CONGRESSIONAL
AND ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIALS OF THE NATURE AND OPERA-
TION OF THE CONFERENCE SYSTEM. THEIR VIEW WAS
REINFORCED BY MS. NEVILLE-ROTH'S OBSERVATION ABOUT
THE LACK OF SEARCHING QUESTIONS ON THE CONFERENCE
AT THE CSG-US TALKS. THEY ARE, THEREFORE, INTERESTED
IN DISSEMINATING MORE INFORMATION ABOUT CONFERENCE
OPERATION AMONG U.S. OFFICIALS AND IN FACILITATING
THE WORK OF THE CSG-US WORKING GROUP IN THE FALL
ON THE POINTS TO BE DEALT WITH AS REPORTED IN
REFTEL.

BREWSTER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MARINE TRANSPORTATION, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978LONDON08959
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780237-1141
Format: TEL
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780687/aaaacwnl.tel
Line Count: 195
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c63c5e90-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 140369
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2457098
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UK REACTIONS TO US-CONSULTATIVE SHIPPING GROUP (CSG) DISCUSSIONS
TAGS: EWWT, UK, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c63c5e90-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014